

I DO NOT support notices for rule making RM-10786 and RM-10787 as submitted by their authors.

Here are a few very important points on this matter:

1. The requirement for Morse code is a time honored "right of passage" for the Amateur Radio operator. The argument that new technology makes CW obsolete is a rather moot point, as most modes of operation have made CW, AM, and SSB obsolete as well.
2. The "REAL" reason behind RM-10786 and RM-10787 is a self serving purpose by a small but loud group of Hams who for various reasons do not feel they should be held to the same high standards as has been in place since the beginning of Amateur Radio. Groups like NCI do not server the best interests of Amateur Radio operators, they do not even represent the majority of Amateur Radio operators.
3. The CW testing requirement is not keeping away new Hams or our young people from the service. For years people have screamed this very mantra, after the code testing requirement was dropped to only 5 WPM they all predicted a floodgate effect of new Hams getting into the service. That never happened. CW is not killing Amateur Radio despite what groups like NCI chant.
4. These are troubled times we live in, the last thing our country needs to do is "dumb down" one of our greatest natural resources, trained Amateur Radio operators. Let us not forget hard lessons learned on 9/11/01 just to make a FEW people feel better about their selves.

In closing, the removal of the CW testing for obtaining an Amateur Radio license will not benefit the service or our country, it will only serve the selfishness of a very small group of people.

73

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